



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## 1301.0 - Year Book Australia, 1946-47

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 01/01/1947

*This page was updated on 23 Nov 2012 to include the disclaimer below. No other content in this article was affected.*

### **DISCLAIMER:**

*Users are warned that historic issues of this publication may contain language or views which, reflecting the authors' attitudes or that of the period in which the item was written, may be considered to be inappropriate or offensive today.*

## **AUSTRALIAN SERVICES DURING WORLD WAR II, 1939-45 (ENLISTMENTS, CASUALTIES, DECORATIONS, ETC).**

### **PERSONNEL, 1939-45 WAR**

The figures in the table hereunder represent gross enlistments of war service personnel, plus permanent personnel at the beginning of the war, plus gross enlistments in the permanent forces. Particulars for the Navy and Air Force are as at 31st December, 1945, and for the Army as at 28th February, 1946. The term "gross enlistments" indicates that no deductions have been made because of discharges, dead, deserters, etc.

### **PERSONNEL, 1939-45 WAR: GROSS ENLISTMENTS, ALL SERVICES (Thousands)**

Service	Males	Females	Persons
Royal Australian Navy	45.8	3.1	48.9
Australian Military Forces	691.4	35.8	727.2
Royal Australian Air Force	189.7	27.2	216.9
Total	926.9	66.1	993.0

### **CASUALTIES, 1939-45 WAR.**

The following table shows the numbers of persons killed, wounded and missing, and of prisoners-of-war escaped, recovered or repatriated in each of the services, classified according to theatre of operations:-

### **CASUALTIES (a) 1939-45 WAR: ALL SERVICES. (As at 30th April, 1947)**

Particulars	Royal Australian Navy	Australian Military Forces	Royal Australian Air Force	All Services
AGAINST GERMANY				
Killed (b)	913	3,536	7,095	11,544

Missing	..	9	..	9
Prisoners-of-war escaped, recovered or repatriated	26	7,055	1,012	8,093
Wounded and injured	(c) 26	8,577	1,601	10,204
Total	965	19,177	9,708	29,850

#### AGAINST JAPAN

Killed (b)	1,094	15,140	2,911	19,145
Missing	..	11	33	44
Prisoners-of-war escaped, recovered or repatriated	237	13,865	235	14,337
Wounded and injured	(c) 553	13,275	1,630	15,458
Total	1,884	42,291	4,809	48,984

#### ALL THEATRES OF WAR

Killed (b)	2,007	(d) 18,676	10,006	30,689
Missing	..	20	33	53
Prisoners-of-war escaped, recovered or repatriated	263	20,920	1,247	22,430
Wounded and injured	(c) 579	(e) 21,852	3,231	25,662
Total	2,849	61,468	14,517	78,834

(a) All casualties except deaths from natural causes

(b) Includes died of wounds,.. died while prisoner-of-war, and missing presumed dead

(c) Excludes injured

(d) Excludes 6,041 non-battle deaths

(e) Excludes 149,489 non-battle injuries.

### **DECORATIONS AND AWARDS, 1939-45 WAR.**

The numbers of the various awards and decorations conferred on members of each of the fighting forces for gallantry or other meritorious service during the **1939-45 War** appear below:

#### **DECORATIONS AND AWARDS : AUSTRALIAN SERVICES, 1939-45 WAR**

Decoration or Award	Royal Australian Navy	Australian Military Forces	Royal Australian Air Force	All Services
<b>British Decorations or Awards:</b>				
Victoria Cross (V.C.)	..	17	2	19
George Cross (G.G.)	4	1	..	5
Knight Grand Cross Order of British Empire (G.B.E.)	..	1	..	1
Knight Commander Order of Bath (K.C.B.)	..	2	..	2
Knight Commander Victoria Order (K.C.V.O.)	1	..	..	1
Knight Commander Order of British Empire (K.B.E.)	..	4	..	4
Companion Order of Bath (C.B.)	3	20	4	27
Companion Order of St. Michael and St. George (C.M.G.)	1	..	..	1
Commander Order of British Empire (C.B.E.)	8	93	15	116
Officer Order of British Empire (O.B.E.)	31	230	61	322
Distinguished Service Order (D.S.O.)	18	177	68	263
Distinguished Service Order Bar	3	21	4	28
Member Victorian Order (M.V.O.)	..	..	1	1
Member Order of British Empire (M.B.E.)	42	381	96	519
Royal Red Cross (R.R.C.)	..	18	3	21
Royal Red Cross (Associate)	..	32	4	36
Distinguished Service Cross (D.S.C.)	149	..	..	149
Distinguished Service Cross, Bar	10	..	..	10
Distinguished Service Cross, Second Bar	2	..	..	2

Military Cross (M.C.)	..	500	7	507
Military Cross, Bar	..	15	..	15
Distinguished Flying Cross (D.F.C.)	1	1	2,179	2,181
Distinguished Flying Cross, Bar	..	..	124	124
Distinguished Flying Cross, Second Bar	..	..	1	1
Air Force Cross (A.F.C.)	..	..	165	165
Albert Medal	1	..	..	1
Medal for Distinguished Conduct in the Field (D.C.M.)	..	197	2	199
Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (C.G.M.)	1	..	10	11
George Medal (G.M.)	9	13	20	42
George Medal, Bar	3	..	..	3
Distinguished Service Medal (D.S.M.)	157	..	..	157
Distinguished Service Medal, Bar	2	..	..	2
Military Medal (M.M.)	..	983	4	987
Military Medal, Bar	..	5	..	5
Distinguished Flying Medal (D.F.M.)	..	..	409	409
Distinguished Flying Medal, Bar	..	..	2	2
Air Force Medal (A.F.M.)	..	..	16	16
British Empire Medal (B.E.M.)	35	168	57	260
Mention in Despatches	601	6,189	1,786	8,576
King's Commendation for Brave	..	12	..	12
Knight of Grace of order of St. John of Jerusalem	..	3	..	3
Commander-in-Chief Cards	..	1,082	..	1,082
Commendation Cards	12	177	168	357
Total British Decorations or Awards	1,094	10,342	5,208	16,644
Foreign Decorations or Awards	57	145	171	373
Grand Total	(a)1,151	(b)10,487	(c)5,379	17,017

(a) In addition, 45 decorations or awards were made to British personnel in Australian Services, and one to a civilian with the Australian Services. (b) In addition, 18 decorations or awards were made to British or Allied personnel on loan to A.M.F., 41 to civilians with A.M.F., and 363 to natives with A.M.F. (c) Excludes decorations and awards to R.A.F. personnel on loan to R.A.A.F. and to members of R.A.F. who were Australian by birth - particulars are not available.

Foreign awards include those of the United States of America, Russia, Greece, Poland, France, Holland, Belgium and Lebanon.

---

This page last updated 23 November 2012

© Commonwealth of Australia

All data and other material produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) constitutes Commonwealth copyright administered by the ABS. The ABS reserves the right to set out the terms and conditions for the use of such material. Unless otherwise noted, all material on this website – except the ABS logo, the Commonwealth Coat of Arms, and any material protected by a trade mark – is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 Australia licence